

Subject: Prevalence of early childhood caries and its Effective factors in 3-5 years old children of kindergartens of Ardabil city in 1392

Abstract

Introduction

ECC is a public health problem which affects infants and preschool children worldwide.

Object

The aim of this study was to evaluate the prevalence of ECC and its associated factors among children of 3-5 years old in kindergartens of Ardabil city in 1392.

Materials and Methods

In this cross-sectional study, 360 children 3-5 years old were randomly selected. At first, parents were interviewed and then the decayed, filled and extracted teeth were detected by oral examination and dmft index and prevalence of caries were determined. The available data was analyzed by statistical software SPSS version 16 using statistical t-test, variance analysis and descriptive statistics.

Results

The prevalence of ECC was 77 percent, the dmft index of three, four, and five years old children were 0.3 ± 0.76 , 0.4 ± 4.9 and 0.3 ± 6.7 , respectively. Results showed that the education level of parents, especially mothers, low weight at birth, and prolonged breast-feeding are effective in the rate of milk teeth early caries ($p < 0.05$).

Conclusions

According to the findings, it seems that targeted children-feeding programs, increase in education level, and support from families about dental care are important in preventing dental caries in children.

Keywords: dmft, ECC, caries prevalence.